

fighting, but I have been under shell fire, which was plenty of excitement for me. Ha! ha! My company has the record of having been closer to the front than any other company in our regiment, and, believe me, I have seen enough to entertain you for a long while after I get home.

Where I am stationed now is a long way from the fighting zone. I have seen a lot of traveling since I have been here and I have seen a good deal of the country and there is certainly some lovely scenery here, but I think the U. S. A. is good enough for me.

I have plenty of heavy clothing and socks, but I wouldn't care if you would send me a sweater for Christmas. I would love to be with you on Thanksgiving, but since I can't I certainly hope you will spend a pleasant time.

I am glad that mama has begun to receive my allotments promptly. Hug and kiss the baby for me, and give my love to every one at home. Trusting you are all fine and dandy. Your loving son,

TREVALYN.  
Corporal T. M. Nash, Co. C, 808 Pioneer Infy., A. E. F., to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Will Nash, Tazewell.

November 13, 1918.

Dear mother and all:

Just feel like writing you all a line this evening and wondering how you are. I am getting along fine now. I have been transferred from where I was at first and am now on my way to my company, but don't know where they are now. I was right sick for a while, but am feeling very near as good as ever now. I haven't seen anybody that I know since I landed over here and haven't gotten any mail yet. You know it will go to my company and then back to me.

Have any more of the boys gone to camp since I left home? Is Bill still guarding yet? How is Mr. Jackson getting on? Does he still read the papers as much as he did. Guess he still says the war will soon be over. We have very good eating, sufficient to make out on, but not like home. The card I sent home is all you can send me for Christmas; send me some candy and anything else will keep a month. Write me Elgin's address; also Harveys, and Roy K.

Has John Steele come across yet, and how is "Granny?"

Hoping to hear from you soon.

Lovingly, your son, JOHN.

Prvt. John A. Neel, 9th Casual Co., A. E. F., to W. E. Neel, Pounding Mill, Va.

October 23, 1918.

Dear Sis and All:

I am just studying about what you all are doing this morning. Hope you are all well. I am getting along fine. Think I will soon be able to go back to my company again, and I will sure be glad to get back with them. Have been out and walked around a little and am awfully tired. The French people sure are funny folks. I can't understand anything that they say at all. How is papa getting along with is work? Guess he got the corn cut all right. Hope he did, anyway. Guess Jack helped him.

How is mama now? Does she suffer with her head?

I've not received any mail since I landed here, but hope to hear from some one in the U. S. in a few days. We sure are having some fine weather here. I haven't seen any frost yet. There are some blackberry briars here and they are full of green berries yet.

Do you ever ride "Daisy" any now. I would like to be there and take a round for a day or two. I think this is going to be a pretty country when we get to see it good. The houses are of stone and cement.

I wrote Billie a card shortly after landing over here.

Write me all the news and let me know how you all are.

Lovingly, your brother,

JOHN.

John Neal, to Miss Eva Mae Neel, Pounding Mill, Va.

Somewhere in France, Oct. 23.

Dear Sister and family:

As there is no ballooning today, and it is raining, will try and write a few letters. We can't always find time to write over here, so when a rainy day comes all the boys get busy writing letters home. Your letter dated Sept. 23rd, received a few days ago. I am always so very glad to hear from you, and I'll write every chance I have. I know you have a plenty of apples this year. Wish I was there. I sure would put some in the lower regions. I haven't had an apple in so long. Don't guess I'll get to eat Xmas dinner at home, but hope to be there for Easter. I think we have the Huns going our way now. I sent you a paper a few weeks ago, and am sending you another copy today. Will send you one every week.

Have had two letters from John lately. He is near the front.

The people over here have some strange ways. They take everything seriously. Don't seem as they can ever get used to the happy go lucky way of the U. S. boys.

Have got acquainted with a good many nice French girls. I am learning French very fast, so you know I can carry on a conversation with the French maids. Several Red Cross girls were up here a few nights ago and all the boys went crazy about their singing. Sure did sound good to hear some real American girls sing. Several of the boys are in the hospital with influenza from my company. I sent you my Christmas package coupon, but failed to fill it out, so you may do that. My name, serial No., which is 1,185,343 and branch of the service, air service. You may send cigarettes if you wish. They are very scarce here just now.

I know you will have a good time Xmas. It looks as if we are going to be here permanently, training officers for the front. Plenty of excitement in my work. I like it very much.

With much love and best wishes to all,

Your loving brother, CHARLES.

From Jack Saunders to his sister, Mrs. J. D. Farmer.

## Notice to Parents, Wives or Other Relatives of Soldiers and Sailors in Tazewell County:

Are you receiving your allotment promptly? Are you receiving allowance made to you by the War Risk Insurance Bureau?

If you are the dependent of a soldier killed in France, or who died in the camps in the United States, has the matter of insurance been adjusted to your satisfaction, and are you receiving the monthly instalments promptly?

Is the allotment made to you sufficient to provide the support that would be provided by your husband or brother if he were here?

Do you hear regularly from your son, or husband or brother, as the case may be, who is in foreign service or in the camps at home?

Are you worried with financial or domestic difficulties, and need aid or advice, either legal or friendly?

Have you sickness in the family, or are your surroundings such that your children do not receive proper attention because of the absence of the head of the family?

Is your home healthful and sanitary to such an extent that the children can be properly cared for and be kept healthy and strong?

The above questions cover some of the many objects of service for which the Home Service Sections of the Red Cross have been organized throughout the United States.

In Tazewell County, where the Red Cross has done such effective work in the past, the Home Service Section is prepared to render prompt aid.

If you are the dependent of a soldier, or mother, sister, or father, who is not dependent upon allotments and desire information about the soldier's welfare, or if allotments, insurance, allowances or other matters arise upon which you need assistance in any way you are urged to call upon the Home Service Section of the Red Cross for assistance or help.

For further information, call on the Home Service Representative nearest you, or phone 31, Tazewell.

MISS MARY PRESTON, Executive Secretary, Tazewell County Home Service Section, A. R. C.

### COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES.

Pocahontas—L. B. Crawford.  
Falls Mills—H. H. Harry.  
Graham—Dr. H. B. Frazier.  
Tip Top—J. G. Gillespie.  
Cove Creek—T. L. Shuffelbarger.  
Shawners Mill—William Pruett.  
Burke's Garden—C. J. Moss.  
Boissevine—C. J. Cunningham.  
Horsepen—Jas. P. Whitman.  
Shraders—Marion Brewster.  
Cedar Bluff—Geo. J. Lambert.

American Expeditionary Force, October 17, 1918.

Dear Homefolks:

Was in the lines when I wrote you last with pencil, so did not get it off, but we have been relieved and are back for a rest now, but do not know how long will be out. We were very lucky while in the lines. Only a few men were killed, a few wounded severely and several slightly. We have been on the front five times and have been exceedingly lucky on each occasion. You may guess that we have had some experience. Since I was made supply sergeant have not been exactly in the front lines, but have been uncomfortably near a few times, but rather enjoyed the excitement part of the time especially when our artillery was sending over a nice barrage. Then is when it is that every calibre gun from three to fifteen inch can be heard barking and roaring as tho they were tearing the very earth to fragments and believe me, they make fragments of most anything with which they come in contact.

When the push was started on September 25th, near Verdun, our artillery opened an intensive bombardment that lasted for nine hours, 11 p. m. to 8 a. m. and kept up a severe shell fire all day long.

As you all know this war is not being fought by one side, so may judge Fritz is hurling his part of shells back at us. Fritz's part is about one-tenth, which is enough if I am to be the judge.

As everything looks now, we hope peace will come before having to make many more trips to the front. Hope you all do not get uneasy about me, for I do not get uneasy, just a little uncomfortable.

If I am injured, you will be cabled at once, so no need to worry for worrying brings premature grey hairs and you know grey locks come soon enough.

Love and best wishes to all.

Sincerely, JESSE.

Jesse Vernon to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Vernon, Cedar Bluff, Va.

With the American Expeditionary Forces, October 10, 1918.

Dear mother and homefolks:

Have received several letters from you since having the opportunity of writing, owing to the fact that we have been in the lines and it is a hard matter to get mail out during a push. Read your letter of Sept. 19th this morning. Glad as usual to hear from home and folks but my sympathy is with you all. Sure hope Grace stood the operation and will pull thru o. k. and be strong again. Am quite sure she had a hard time of it all summer. Hope all the folks are getting on well; also hope father will get his fall work done on time.

Do not know when we will be relieved, but expect it soon, so we may get a needed rest, also most every one seems to be standing the hardships fine and as a rule a jolly bunch. Would like to see everybody and especially homefolks and as everything looks now am very hopeful of getting back to the States in a few months. Ope you will not worry about me for it does not pay, besides am sure you had enough at home to worry about and I am sure God will take me home safe.

Love and best wishes to all.

Sincerely, JESSE.

Jesse Vernon to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Vernon, Cedar Bluff.

With the American Expeditionary Forces, November 4, 1918.

Dear mother and father:

Will take the greatest pleasure in answering your very kind letter that came to hand a few days ago. I am well and hope when these few lines reach you, will find you the have to come over here, for there is

enough here now to finish the Boche. I have a lot of souvenirs. Wish you could see them. I hope to send some of them home soon. I am sure mama has gotten the present I sent her by now and I know she likes it. France is a beautiful country, but I like the U. S. A. better, and will be glad when the old ship sets sail for the old U. S. and I am on it. The new draft from 18 to 45 sure will get a lot of old boys and I am thinking of old bachelors who have not married will soon get busy and marry, but the people were surprised when it passed. I had a letter from George and Aunt Etta the other day, and was certainly glad to get them. I get letters from everybody around home and I am really ashamed of myself for not writing more, but perhaps I will get caught up with my correspondence sometime in the near future. I guess Litz is a man by now. I know he is a hustler. I know you all have had a lot of company this summer, but such is life. Sure wish I could have been one of your visitors. Well, I guess you all will have a big Christmas this year. I wish I could be with you all, but my heart will be there just the same. Sis, you must remember me to all the people I know, and tell Mr. Whitley I saw Bob and he is getting on fine. Beverly was wounded but not seriously, I understand, but I have not seen him. Bob Litz is getting along fine.

You must kiss all the family for me, and tell them I would like to see them. With a heart full of love for all the family, your devoted brother,

SGT. LINDSAY T. MCGUIRE.

Co. I, 318th Infantry, A. E. F.

Camp Lee, October 27, 1918.

Dear father and mother:

I am real lonesome today. The weather is so warm and beautiful, and I cannot get out or do anything, unless it would be to walk or ride the street car. I don't like to ride the street car and the autos cost too much so I just took a little walk a few minutes ago. I went down to Lake-mont and got a few persimmons. There is a tree down there that had several on it, and Pat and myself are getting some of them on Sundays, but Pat is cooking this evening and I went by my lonesome. There are lots of boys here yet, but you know I never was much of a person for running around with the boys, but I could put in good time with the girls if they were here, couldn't I? Gee. I sure would like to have had a car or motorcycle today to have run around in some, but I will be back home some of these days and then I can enjoy myself. I would love to be at home today. I have just finished my dinner. Would you like to know what I had for dinner? I had chicken, peas, sweet potatoes, and chocolate dessert.

Pat and myself are going to try to get to come home together. He wants to come home real bad, as well as myself. I think I can get along fine after the "flu" gets out of the country. It is working awfully hard, but I think by the help of the Lord I can guard it off I pray every night for the Lord to shield you from it, and I believe he will, too.

Say, Pat and I started to the big "Y" this morning and ran across Jim Fields. He looks fine, but is home sick. I wonder what you all are doing today. Little Virginia Bane wrote me the cutest letter. I was so glad to get it. I am going to write her a letter soon. I hope to get a letter from you all today. I know it is hard for you all to write so much, as you all are busy all the time. This life is full of troubles, but some day our hardships and troubles will be over and we can go to Heaven to the place of everlasting happiness. I am determined, by the help of the Lord, to so live in the army, that if I were suddenly called away, I will be ready to go.

I am afraid I never appreciated home before as I do now.

Love to all,

Your son, CHARLIE.

From Charles R. Crucey, Y. M. C. D., Camp Lee, to his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Crucey, Indian, Va.

Tours, France, Nov. 2, 1918.

Dear mother:

Will write you a letter today in reply to yours. I received two letters from home yesterday which had been written on September 26th and 30th. I am getting mail real often now. The day I got your letters I got six—two from Newton; one of them had been to Camp Lee and it was forwarded to me. It was written sometime in August; the other one was dated Sept. 21st, and I got one from Miss Mae Rudd. I also got the copies of the C. V. News you sent me, but have not gotten any except those you all sent me, so you may imagine what a nice time I had reading my letters and also the papers, and you can also imagine what a time I am going to have answering them. Think I will detail some one to help me to write. Sure was glad to know you all were well. At this writing I am well and getting along real fine and I hope when this reaches you all it will find you all in the same condition. You ask me if my head was bothering me. No, it is not. I am just feeling fine. Have only had a bad cold a time or two and all I have to do then is to go down to the doctor and he will give a fellow some quinine and you are soon feeling fine. Jim Moore, and George and Lee Sayers are not with me now. I have not seen them in about two months. I was going out by the Y. M. C. A. and someone says "Hey, there!" and I looked around and it was Arthur Gillespie. That is the way you run across a fellow you know in the army. This is the boy who worked with me on the railroad. By meeting up with him I think I maybe able to locate C. Turner. Anyway, I think he is close and I am going to try to locate him Sunday. You ask me about the tag for the Christmas package. I sent you one in the other letter, and suppose you have gotten it by now. Tell Naomi that was a nice letter, that she can write fine. I hope Bessie will by now. Must close for this time. Well

much love to all the family and the friends. Hope to hear from you all again soon.

PRT. POSE E. BURCHAM.

Headquarters Battalion, Co. 3rd, A. P. O. 717, to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Burcham.

St. Denis, France, Nov. 10.

Dear Mr. Bottimore:

I have gotten letters from you, Mrs. B., and Helen and will never have time to write an individual one to all three, so please pass this one around from Edith, Anne and up to you.

I get up every morning at 5:40 and am busy until about eight at night, most of the time until eleven. That's a broad statement to make and one hard for those who know me to believe, but since I am in the army I don't grumble. You see all the linen for the beds of about three thousand patients, and the clothes of the personnel of this organization, officers, nurses and men, have to pass thru my hands to Paris and more important than that, it has to be gotten back. I have a great time trying to talk French to these laundrymen and women—mostly women but have gotten where I can make myself understood pretty well. I used to take an interpreter three or four days each week, now I rarely ever have to have one. There is one good advantage about this laundry job, it gives me permanent permission to be in Paris, hence I got to see a good deal of the city. I know it better than any other place in the world except Tazewell town.

A wonderful city it is. What makes it so wonderful is the people. They treat us all like kings and princes. I went into one of the stores yesterday on the Rue de la Paris, the highest class shopping street in the world, and the proprietor, who had been to America and speaks pretty good English, left nothing unsaid about Virginia and its people. He had been to Norfolk and Richmond. I went into the store with one of my nephews who was very anxious to purchase an article for his "sister." He made a good purchase, alright, and made me swear not to tell it but I can't keep from it.

I surely did enjoy Mrs. Bottimore's new letters. There was more news in it than I have ever gotten since here.

Everything I could write all and enjoy wish I could write all and enjoy believe I could do better.

I heard today they are going to open up the famous Art Galleries of the Laures shortly, so I will surely go through it and have something now to say I have seen. I never have yet been to Versailles, but am going next Sunday if nothing interferes. Fred and Alex have gone to day, but they went about ten o'clock this morning, which was before I could manage to get away. Also I am going about Sunday week to Chateau Thierry and if possible am going to one or two other famous spots of this war.

Alex and Fred are both just as happy as larks. Every time I see them, which is every day, they are in fine spirits. They both work in the quartermasters department and that suits them exactly. Anything they say to avoid hard work, and I guess they are right.

I sent Emily a little playhouse sort of handkerchief, which I hope she has gotten or will get.

Suppose you people back in America are rejoicing today at the news that the Kaiser is A. W. O. L. You have cause to rejoice, but you will never be able to appreciate how much more reason the people here have for doing the same thing. I have seen many women shed tears of joy here during the last few days. They know what war is.

I have several letters I want to write this afternoon, and have nothing more that will interest you. Write to me again.

KENNETH C. PATTY.

Base Hospital No. 41, APO 702, A. E. F., to Mr. John S. Bottimore, Tazewell, Va.

Somewhere in France, Nov. 3.

My Dearest Mama and Papa:

Will write you today as I haven't much else to do. I am still in the hospital, but am improving some. My body is better, tho my eyes still hurt quite a lot. That is about all that is bothering me now, except a cold occasionally. I hope to be able to go back to my company in a week or two, so I can get my mail, as I have not had any since I have been in the hospital, which was about the 5th of October. I saw some of the boys from my company and they said I had some mail. Tell the boys I will write to them some day. It is awfully hard to get paper, and then I can't write much on account of my eyes. I suppose you all hear from Popsy real often. I haven't heard but once since he's been in France. If I can obtain a pass I'm going to see him.

I received the tobacco you sent me. And just imagine how glad I was as I got it one evening while on the front and it lasted me until I came to the hospital. Of course I'd rather have tobacco now as most anything except mail.

I don't know very much war news as we don't get many papers but what I read certainly sounds good to me, for we boys are getting anxious to finish all this up and get back to the state before many months.

It's raining and is looking like winter is coming soon, Papa, you must not work too hard. And please stay in when the weather is bad.

As it is getting dinner time I must stop. Tell every body hello for me. With lots of love to all.

Your devoted son,

NEWTON.

From Newton H. Edwards, to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Edwards.

Headquarters Co. 318th Infantry, American Expeditionary Forces.

Headquarters Co. 361 Infantry, American Expeditionary Forces.

Dear Mama Papa and All:

I guess you have begun to get a little uneasy about me. Well, by

golly, I had begun to get uneasy about myself, for I have just gone through a big drive and came out safe and sound. I tell you it is remarkable how the Yanks drive the Dutch. Reminds me of driving cattle onto a fellow sure has some awful scares at times.

Say, I want you to go down and tell Uncle John he hasn't a darn thing on me now. I can tell some just as big as he can now.

You need not be a bit uneasy about me just because I have been in a battle for probably the division I am with won't ever go back into action.

You will notice by the address that I have been seeing some more of France. I have been just about all over France I think. Haven't been to Paris yet, hope to go some time.

Well, I guess I won't tell you any more about my experiences over here now, if I do I wouldn't have anything to tell when I get home.

Do you hear from Clyde and Roy? You know I haven't had a bit of mail since I have been over here. I am on the go all the time. Don't stay in one place long enough to get any.

Say, you know that school I was going to? I finished my course there and will be made mechanic just as soon as the division gets to my service papers. You know that beats being a private some.

Well, how is everything around home? Has school started yet? You know what I mean. How is my little Naomi getting along? Gee! but wish I could spend this evening there with you all, and then you know I would fix up right sweet and go out to night and see that dear little Rose Bud. Well, I guess you don't care about such stuff. So how are the chickens? ha! ha!

Say, tell Dad for him not to work his self to death just because he is short of hands for when I get back home I sure want to find every body there. And there is no use telling you not to work for you would just take care of your selves. Some of these days very soon you will have three sons marching back to you.

Well, I must stop by wishing you all kinds of luck, Your son,

OSCAR H. KEISTER.

From Oscar H. Keister, to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Keister, Tannersville, Va.

Nov. 2 1918.

Co. G, 126, Infantry, A. E. F.

Dear Cox:

I guess that you think that promised letter is a long time coming, but I really haven't had any thing interesting to write, and haven't yet but I am lonesome here in the hospital.

I guess you have heard before that I was wounded but it is a slight wound. I am getting about straight. Have been walking on crutches for a few days. Guess that I will be able to go without them in a day or two.

Well, France is a very pretty country but I will tell you that it does not look as good as the good U. S. A. would to me, and I am living in hopes of seeing the States again real soon for this war is almost a finish. The Germans can't stand it much longer.

Well, guess you good people back in Tazewell are well. I won't say for I know that you all are doing your part to win the war, and I will double assure you that the soldiers over here are doing their part.

And they are going to win real soon. Well, I guess I have written about enough. I am sure that you will get tired from reading, so I will say good bye by asking you to excuse bad writing.

SAMUEL L. WHITEHEAD.

From Samuel L. Whitehead, to his cousin, Mrs. Sam Larimer.

Nov. 2 1918.

Co. G, 126, Infantry, A. E. F.

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## BENBOW CONTRIBUTORS TO Y. M. C. A. FUND.

J. O. Correll and son, \$25.00; R. P. Buchanan, \$25.00; G. S. Thompson, \$15.00; C. P. Thompson, \$2.50; R. G. Wimmer, \$4.00; N. T. Buchanan, \$10; J. H. Buchanan, \$10.00; W. T. Buchanan, \$5.00; Mrs. W. T. Buchanan, \$5.00; Jas. R. Buchanan and family, \$5.00; Miss Annabell Kidd, \$5.00; Mary Bell, \$5.00; Mrs. John Buchanan, \$4.20; Will Thompson, \$2.00; Milton Thompson, \$2.00; Walter Puckett, \$2.50; Frazier Matthews, \$2.50; C. M. Hopkins, \$2.00; Crabtree Brothers, \$2.00; Mr. W. L. Vanhoosier, \$1.00; Oscar Clayton, \$1.00; Mrs. Vicie Clayton, \$1.00; Miss Nan Ella Clayton, \$1.00; H. B. Stevenson, \$1.00; Mrs. Jesse Wimmer, \$1.00; Charles Kinder, \$1.00; John Necessary, \$1.00; Raymond Buchanan, \$1; Mrs. Carrie Buchanan, \$1.00; Miss Georgie Hovary, \$1.00; Miss Oreda Williams, \$1.00; Miss